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Workforce Investment Board
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WIB Healthcare Committee
Capital Health – Hopewell Campus
March 20, 2012—12:30 PM

Present: Scott Clemmensen (Capital Health), Lucille Jones (MCTS), Beverly Mills (Mercer County WIB), June Gray (Children's Futures), Dr. Shelly Chinkes (Comfort Keepers), Mary Kay Krokowski (Aging Advisors), Hillary Murray (Buckingham), Sharon Nemeth (MCTS), Aaron Samuels, (One Stop), Linda Martin (MCCC), Cheryl Prall (Robert Wood Johnson), Dave Cipolloni (Trenton Public School System), Gloria Frederick (WWWE)

Opening

Meeting was opened by Scott Clemmensen with introductions and a welcome to visitors.

Minutes from the January 17, 2012 meeting were reviewed – a motion was made by Lucille Jones and seconded by Linda Martin to approve the minutes. The minutes will be placed on the Mercer County WIB website.

Mercer Healthcare Academy Update

For the benefit of the visitors, Lucille Jones briefly updated on the history of the Healthcare Academy. In the fall 9th graders, along with standard high school graduation requirements, will take Biology 113, 10th graders Microbiology 115 along with Dynamics of Health from UMDNJ. Next year for the first time 11th graders will be taking Calculus I for the first semester, II in the second semester and Calculus III in their senior year. Along with their receiving their high school diplomas they will have earned credits toward an Associates Degree. 39 applications have been received for next year but the Academy can only take 30 students; as of this meeting 19 students have been accepted through rolling admission. The remaining slots are being held open.

Trenton Public School CNA Program

Dave Cipolloni presented on behalf of the new Career and Technical Education Program slated to begin in September, 2012 at Trenton High School.

A Certified Nursing Assistant Program will be taught for one year as well as Medical Assistant. He explained the appeal of the CNA program because of the credential received after training. Currently there is no instructor for the CNA Program and asked for referrals.

June Gray inquired if they are looking for a CNA instructor as well as Home Health Aid?

Dave said they are looking to run both programs in the same year if possible partnering with Greenwood House for clinical training. Although CNA and Home Health Aid curriculums are regulated by two different agencies, Trenton High would like to offer both if they can find instructors.

Linda Martin mentioned MCCC runs both programs and for 10 additional hours of training for a dual certification it is worth it for the student.

Hillary agreed and mentioned there is more opportunity in home health care. She also said for the younger students there is more opportunity to train and shadow a senior person.

Scott mentioned the benefits of job shadowing and how that would add to the required experience that many employers look for.

Lucille also discussed personal traits being an integral part of the program.

Scott added that customer service should be part of the course curriculum. Medical facilities are sometimes rates customer service more highly than clinical aspects.

Mary Kay also mentioned that the skill set is different for some in the Medical Assistant program and may appeal to a student with a different maturity level.

Hillary added that there is a growing demand for male home caregivers – it's difficult to find a confident person with skills.

One Stop Youth Program

Aaron Samuels, One Stop Youth Manager, presented an update on the youth program at the One Stop. The program assesses the skills of qualified youth between the ages of 18-21 who are interested in occupational training. These youth must first go through basic skills testing and job readiness training before going to their respective programs.

This youth program, in partnership with the Princeton Chamber of Commerce, works closely with youth so the Chamber can then reach out to employers so they can be hired into subsidized internships. These youth will then gain a six month work experience which in turn will make them more marketable once the internship is completed. The desired outcome, however, is for the employer to hire the youth once after six months. On April 2, 2012 the first wave of students (two individuals in HVAC) will be placed into training after program completion with other students hopefully soon to be placed. The benefit to the employer, aside from receiving a subsidized intern, is that the student can be groomed to become an ideal employee.

Cheryl commented favorably about the program; a judge of its success would be if the reputation of the program precedes the applicants.

CVS Program

Gloria Frederick updated on the CVS CAPS/Registered Internship for Pharmacy Technical Program. This program is for high school juniors and seniors to help youth transition to work through an internship in partnership with the NJ Labor Youth Transition to Work grant. The CVS program is certified by US DOL and NJ DOL apprenticeship standards and, after training, will lead to a Certificate of Completion after 2,000 hours of training. After completion of 2,000 hours they can sit for the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board exam which is a portable, national certification.

There are currently 60 applications at Trenton Central Health along with letter of interest through the County. Wanted are people with personalities who can carry on a conversation. The program is very rigorous and in the past four years of the program only two students have been lost. There are slots for 10 students but can increase to bring in others if they are excellent students.

Sharon added that students under the Continuing Education Program at MCCC start with 12 credits along with their full time jobs at CVS.

Meeting was adjourned. Next meeting will be **Tuesday, May 15, 2012** at the **Bellevue Avenue Campus of Capital Health System from 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM.**

Committee members: Since we are now meeting every other month, please mark your calendars for this meeting. It is important this committee has ample representation from our healthcare community partners!